

## *Community Services Block Grant in Iowa (FFY 2014)*

The CSBG is a federal block grant program that is administered by the states. The purpose of the CSBG is to provide funding to states and local agencies for the reduction of poverty, the revitalization of low-income communities, and the empowerment of low-income families and individuals in rural and urban areas to become fully self-sufficient.

Iowa's Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) program funding: \$7,194,537.

CSBG provides the core operational support for Iowa's network of 18 local community action agencies (CAAs). This network operates outreach offices in every Iowa county and provided self-sufficiency services to over 324,000 Iowans.

The CAAs employ over 2,900 staff across Iowa.

The CAAs coordinate local community efforts that include employment, education, child care, housing, self-sufficiency, health, and emergency services. Key services include: Head Start programs, Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), Weatherization Assistance Program, WIC (Women, Infants, and Children), Individual Development Accounts, Family Development and Self-Sufficiency Program, Child Care Resource and Referral, Child and Adult Care Food Program, Emergency Food and Shelter Program, and the Individuals Disaster Assistance Grant Program.

The CAAs are governed by local boards comprised equally of elected officials, private sector representatives, and low-income citizens. 325 citizens volunteered and served on Iowa CAA governing boards.

CSBG assisted the CAAs in leveraging over \$217.6 million in additional federal, state, local government, and private funds and resources.

CSBG provided support for the CAAs to recruit and partner with over 17,000 volunteers—contributing over 408,000 hours of service and support to their local communities.

The CAAs partnered with over 6,300 organizations that support and provide programs and services to low-income Iowans. 488 partnerships were with faith-based organizations.

CSBG is administered through the Iowa Department of Human Rights, Division of Community Action Agencies (DCAA). CSBG program quality and accountability are assured through the DCAA's process of CAA audit reviews, onsite reviews, program and financial monitoring, monthly and year-end reporting requirements, and training and technical assistance.

# *Iowa Community Services Block Grant Results*

## *(FFY 2014)*

Iowa community action agencies (CAAs) provided services to over 125,000 households and 324,000 individuals.

Characteristics of the households and individuals served by Iowa's CAAs:

- **63.63%** were living at or below 100% of the federal poverty level (households)
- **60.40%** received food assistance from Iowa's Food Assistance Program (households)
- **41.36%** were infants, children, and youth aged 0 to 18
- **17.33%** did NOT have health insurance (individuals)
- **21.25%** did NOT have a high school education (individuals aged 24 and above)

The Community Services Block Grant is an outcomes-driven program. The following are examples of Iowa's community action outcomes (results):

Employment and Education:

- **6,491** children participated in pre-school activities to develop school readiness skills
- **1,351** individuals obtained skills/competencies required for employment
- **55** individuals completed an ABE/GED program and received a certificate/diploma
- **47** jobs were created, or saved, from reduction or elimination in the community
- **36** individuals completed a post-secondary education program and received a certificate/diploma

Emergency Assistance:

- **48,276** individuals received emergency food assistance
- **44,563** individuals received emergency fuel or utility payments funded by LIHEAP or other public and private funding sources
- **2,959** individuals received emergency rent or mortgage assistance
- **2,614** individuals received emergency medical care
- **1,145** individuals received disaster relief assistance
- **56** individuals received emergency temporary shelter assistance

Financial Management:

- **5,071** individuals in tax preparation programs qualified for federal or state tax credit (**\$9.4 million** in tax credits was received by the 5,071 individuals)

Housing and Assisted Living:

- **1,751** seniors were able to maintain an independent living situation
- **253** individuals with disabilities were able to maintain an independent living situation
- **78** households purchased a home

Health:

- **15,390** women, **16,200** infants, and **20,355** children obtained nutrition education and food supplements through the WIC program
- **5,865** children obtained age appropriate immunizations, medical, and dental care